

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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E.O. 11652: NA

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SUBJ: APARTHEID COMITE CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS ON TRANSKEI

APARTHEID COMITE CHAIRMAN OGBU (NIGERIA) MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT CONCERNING DEVELOPMENTS IN TRANSKEI AT AN APARTHEID COMITE MEETING MARCH 14. WE UNDERSTAND FROM OTHER SOURCES THAT ALL MEMBERS OF THE APARTHEID COMITE ARE NOT NECESSARILY UNITED BEHIND OGBU'S VIEW, AND SOME ARE SYMPATHETIC TO MATANZINA'S AND BUTHELEZI'S EFFORTS "TO MAKE THE BEST OUT OF A BAD SITUATION".

QUOTE

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A STATEMENT MADE BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON APARTHEID, EDWIN OGEBE OGBU (NIGERIA), AT THIS AFTERNOON'S MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE (SEE PRESS RELEASE GA/AP/375)

ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, THE TRANSKEI NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE PARTY, THE RULING PARTY OF THE BANTUSTAN CALLED TRANSKEI, ESTABLISHED BY THE WHITE MINORITY REGIME FOR THE XHOSA PEOPLE, HAS DECIDED TO ASK FOR INDEPENDENCE WITHIN THE NEXT FIVE
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YEARS.

IN THIS CONNECTION, I WOULD LIKE TO RECALL THAT THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAS, IN RES 3151 G (XXVIII) OF 14 DEC 1973, CATEGORICALLY CONDEMNED THE POLICY OF BANTUSTANS IMPOSED BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME AND CALLED UPON ALL GOVERNMENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS NOT TO ACCORD ANY FORM OF RECOGNITION TO ANH INSTITUTION OR AUTHORITY CREATED THEREBY. IT HAS DECLARED THAT THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS RECOGNIZED BY THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY ARE THE AUTHENTIC REPRESENTATIVES OF THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PEOPLE.

IN EARLIER RESES, THE GA HAS CONDEMNED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF BANTUSTANS AND THE FORCIBLE REMOVAL OF THE AFRICAN PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA TO THESE AREAS "AS A VIOLATION OF THEIR INALIENABLE RIGHTS, CONTRARY TO THEIR INHERENT RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND PREJUDICIAL TO THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF THE COUNTRY AND THE UNITY OF ITS PEOPLE."

THE LATEST MOVE OF THE TRANSKEI NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE PARTY, WHICH IS IN LINE WITH THE MANOEUVRES OF THE WHITE RACIST REGIME, SHOULD DECEIVE NO ONE.

THE TRANSKEI HAS FEW RESOURCES AND HARDLY ANY INDUSTRIES. A LARGE PART OF THE POPULATION IS OUTSIDE THE TERRITORY, WORKING IN THE MINES, THE FACTORIES, FARMS AND HOMES, IN AREAS WHICH THE RACIST REGIME CLAIMS AS A WHITE PRESERVE. THIS REGIME HAS BEEN INTENT TO GRANT A FRAUDELENT INDEPENDENCE TO THE TERRITORY, WHILE RETAINING IT AS A RESERVOIR OF CHEAP LABOUR, IN ORDER TO DECEIVE WORLD OPINION. ACCORDING TO ITS CALCULATIONS, TRANSKEI'S "CITIZENS" WILL INCLUDE NOT ONLY THE 1,734,000 PEOPLE IN THE TERRITORY BUT ALSO THE 1,271,000 XHOSA PEOPLE OUTSIDE THAT TERRITORY WHO WILL BE REGARDED BY IT AS ALIENS WITHOUT ANY RIGHTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE AFFIRMS, IN THE WORDS OF THE FREEDOM CHARTER ADOPTED BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN PEOPLE IN 1955, THAT "SOUTH AFRICA BELONGS TO ALL WHO LIVE IN IT, BLACK AND WHITE, AND NO GOVERNMENT CAN JUSTLY CLAIM AUTHORITY UNLESS IT IS BASED ON THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE". THE PRESENT WHITE REGIME HAS NO RIGHT TO REPRESENT THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA NOR TO

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DISPOSSESS THE AFRICAN PEOPLE OF THEIR RIGHTS IN THE COUNTRY AS A WHOLE. THE RULING PARTY IN THE TRANSKEI, ESTABLISHED UNDER APARTHEID LAWS AND UNDER THE PROTECTION OF THE BRUTAL REPRESSION OF OPPONENETS OF RACISM BY THE WHITE RACIST REGIME, HAS NO RIGHT TO SPEAK FOR THE AFRICAN PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA.

THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE DRAWS ATTENTION, IN THIS CONNECTION, TO THE FACT THAT THE GA, IN RES 3055 (XXVIII), ADOPTED BY

A VIRTUALLY UNANIMOUS VOTE ON 26 OCTOBER 1973, EXPRESSED ITS STRONG CONVICTION THAT "THE RELEASE OF LEADERS OF THE OPPRESSED PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA AND OTHER OPPONENTS OF APARTHEID FROM IMPRISONMENT AND OTHER RESTRICTIONS IS ESSENTIAL FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF THE GRAVE SITUATION IN SOUTH AFRICA". GENUINE LEADERS OF THE AFRICAN PEOPLE AND OF THE PEOPLE OF THE TRANSKEI, SUCH AS NELSON MANDELA DND GOVAN MBEKI, ARE NOW SERVING SENTENCES OF LIFE IMPRISONMENT ON ROBBER ISLAND, WHILE OTHER LEADERS, SUCH AS OLIVER TAMBO, ARE IN EXILE.

A PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF THE GRAVE SITUATION IN SOUTH AFRICA REQUIRES, AS THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANS HAVE REPEATEDLY EMPHASIZED, THE LIBERATION OF ALL THE OPPONENTS OF APARTHEID, THE REPEAL OF ALL REPRESSIVE LAWS AND REGULATIONS, AND THE ATTAINMENT OF MAJORITY RULE ON THE BASIS OF UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE.

THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE CALLS ON ALL GOVERNMENTS AND PEOPLES TO REJECT THE FRAUDULENT MANOEUVRES OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME AND THE APARTHEID INSTITUTIONS ESTABLISHED BY IT, AND TO SUPPORT THE OPPRESSED PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA AND THEIR LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN THEIR LEGITIMATE STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM. BENNETT

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